



Buy photo reprints at [kentucky.com](http://kentucky.com)

A construction worker was perched on the steel form for a column as construction continued Monday on a new University of Kentucky Hospital at South Limestone and Rose Street. The building is scheduled to open in 2011.

PHOTOS BY CHARLES BERTRAM | [cberttram@herald-leader.com](mailto:cberttram@herald-leader.com)

# TAKING SHAPE AT ROSE & LIME



Hospital construction  
off to a healthy start

A bicyclist rode past a drawing of the new UK hospital, which is being built near the old one at South Limestone and Rose Street. Pictured at left on the sign is Dr. Michael Karpf, UK's executive vice president for health affairs.

## First year as columnist has been a joy

### PEOPLE, EVENTS AND ISSUES MADE IT EXCITING



TOM  
EBLEN  
HERALD-LEADER  
COLUMNIST

I became a columnist a year ago this week. It has been a fascinating journey, exploring Kentucky places, people and ideas.

I hope you are enjoying it as much as I am.

I took you to the last Great American Steamboat Race between the now-retired Delta

Queen and the Belle of Louisville. We had a great view, too: the Belle's roof, just outside the pilot house.

We went to Graves County for the 128th annual Fancy Farm Picnic. Sure, I wrote about the political speeches. But what I really went to write about were the folks of St. Jerome Catholic Church, who each year cook fresh vegetables, homemade pies and 18,500 pounds of the best barbecued pork and mutton you'll ever taste. I brought you the sights and

sounds of Danville's Brass Band Festival, the Kentucky Derby and the state high school marching band championships. I took you to meet the "green jacket" men and women who help make Keeneland special and the Lions Club members who organize the Blue Grass Fair.

We sat around the boardroom table with the Dawahare cousins as they talked bravely about the demise of their family's century-old chain of clothing stores.

You met some fascinating people and their work: entrepreneurs Pearse Lyons and Pete Mahurin; artists Verna Mae Stone, Seth Tuska and Lino Ta-

gliapietra; journalists Al Smith, Don Edwards and Don Neagle; and innovators such as architect Helm Roberts, who designed the unique sundial that honors Kentucky's Vietnam veterans.

I have reached into the past for wisdom that could help Kentucky build a better future. Lessons came from the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Henry Clay and Thomas Clark — and from a faded, forgotten book I found in the Lexington Public Library's basement.

I looked for new ideas that could make Kentucky a better

See EBLEN, D2

## AVERAGE MONTHLY BILL TO INCREASE \$5.60-\$6.75

By Scott Sloan

[ssloan@herald-leader.com](mailto:ssloan@herald-leader.com)

The state Public Service Commission approved a 7 percent rate increase Tuesday for East Kentucky Power Cooperative, whose 16 co-ops provide electricity to a half-million homes, farms and businesses in Central and Eastern Kentucky.

Typical residential customers will see their monthly bills rise between \$5.60 and \$6.75 on average, according to figures from the utility and PSC. The new rates become effective Wednesday.

The rate increase is tied primarily to the co-op's new \$528 million coal-fired power generating unit at its Spurlock power station in Maysville. The increase also strengthens the co-op's financial position, which has deteriorated in recent years. The co-op lost money during 2004 and 2005 and narrowly had a profit in 2006.

This rate increase, which totals \$59.5 million overall, is the third time in as many years that customers have seen their bills increase. In 2007, the PSC allowed East Kentucky Power to increase rates by \$19 million to help ease financial troubles. That increase resulted

See ENERGY, D2



Read a copy of the PSC's approval of the rate increase

## Stockyards proposed for Lancaster

### IF BUILT, COULD HIRE 40 PEOPLE; POTENTIAL NEIGHBOR OBJECTS

By Greg Kocher

[gkocher1@herald-leader.com](mailto:gkocher1@herald-leader.com)

LANCASTER — A Russell County livestock company has a one-year option to buy 9 acres for new stockyards south of Lancaster according to a contract filed in the Garrard County clerk's office.

Darrell Loy of Jamestown, a partner in Russell County Stockyards in Russell Springs, confirmed Tuesday that he hopes to buy the acreage to put a new \$4 million stockyard facility that would employ about 40 people.

But Loy emphasized that the negotiator are preliminary and that a lot of hurdles must be overcome before the stockyards become reality.

"It's still too early in the game to know exactly what's taking place," Loy said in telephone interview. "For example, there are still various permits that would need to be approved by the state, he said.

"There are a lot of obstacles we have to go through before we're absolutely positive that

See STOCKYARDS, D2



Jonas Brothers: Win free tickets to the Rupp Arena concert.

Updated property records: Search an updated database of Fayette County property values.

UK coach: See video of the press conference announcing the dismissal of UK coach Billy Gillispie.

Lexico.com: Use a searchable database of restaurants, movies and events.

## CONTACT

Assistant Managing Editor: Tom Caudill, (859) 231-3301. To report a news tip: Call (859) 231-3200 or 1-800-950-6397. E-mail: [hcityregion@herald-leader.com](mailto:hcityregion@herald-leader.com)

## INDEX

Around Kentucky ..... D3  
Business ..... D6-7

Classifieds ..... D8-11  
Obituaries ..... D1  
Lottery ..... D3  
Your Health ..... D1